

Hospitals that have been harmed by the 1997 BBA-imposed reductions.

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HISTORY OF THE HOUSE AWARE-  
NESS AND PRESERVATION ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 25, 1999*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 2303, the History of the House Awareness and Preservation Act. As

an original co-sponsor of H.R. 2303, I believe the private and public sectors of this country would benefit substantially from the commission proposed by my colleagues from Connecticut and Missouri. This comprehensive history of the House of Representatives would provide an accurate, non-partisan picture for all those who are interested in American history and public policy.

In addition, this tax-free effort would be beneficial for current and future Members of Congress. H.R. 2303 includes a provision to authorize the Library of Congress to improve its collection of oral histories from former Members. Also, I am in support of the sense of the

Congress provisions that create a historical orientation program for new Members, as well as a Speaker's lecture series. The Majority Leader's lecture series has been a success in the other body, and I expect this forum would be the same.

Furthermore, I believe this commission would be successful because a select board will choose prominent historians who will focus primarily on procedures and policy, as well as personalities. In conclusion, I am reminded by an aphorism that states "Anybody can make history—only a great man can write it." Mr. Speaker, I hope we will find great individuals to write this important book of history.